

Minutes

Judicial Education Committee Meeting October 29, 2004—1:00 – 3:30 p.m. National City Center, Room 1165

- 1. Committee Members present:** Earl Penrod (Chair), Mark Bailey, Ted Boehm, Barb Collins, Steve David, Darrin Dolehanty, Greg Donat, Bob Freese, Doug Morton, Maggie Robb, Mike Witte.
- 2. Staff present:** Cathy Springer, Vicki Davis, and Anne Jordan.
- 3. The minutes from the July meeting were approved.**
- 4. Review 2004 September Judicial Conference.**
 - a. Evaluations of sessions:** The evaluation summaries were handed out. The evaluation format helps us to know that conferees are getting something from the sessions—not just whether they enjoyed the faculty. Mark Bailey suggested adding a question, “was there a course you were unable to attend but would have liked to?” This could help determine whether to repeat this course in the future. Committee members enjoyed the numerous one-hour sessions—it keeps everyone’s attention and provides a significant amount of information. Some discussion ensued as to the number of offerings. No consensus was reached. The plenary sessions were appreciated, from the opening theatrical performance on Wednesday, to the gubernatorial candidates, to the closing session motivational speaker on Friday.
 - b. Objectives of Annual Meeting:** Committee members felt that the educational goals were met. The group agreed that the camaraderie and networking is enhanced when we are not in Indianapolis. It also allows informal time with appellate judges. A suggestion was made to hold some roundtable discussions on various topics during Thursday’s breakfast. On the issue of future conference sites, our ever-increasing size makes it difficult to find a location in certain areas of the state (e.g. Lafayette was mentioned as a central location, but there is no facility large enough for the entire Judicial Conference). Cathy and Vicki recently visited Belleterra Resort/Casino in southeastern Indiana, outside of Vevay. The facility could adequately accommodate a group our size for the Annual Meeting. There were concerns expressed about using a hotel/casino facility. The Board of Directors will need to discuss this further.
- 4. Upcoming Programs in 2004.**
 - a. Pre-bench orientation:** December 8 and 9 at the Indianapolis Marriott North. The Mentor Judge program will be offered to the new class of judges. Discussion was had on the use of chat rooms and list serves for new judges. The Supreme Court approved the recommendation of the education committee that new judge orientations be required. An Order will be sent to all new judges after the general election. Justice Boehm indicated that the Supreme Court might revise the CLE rule in the future to reflect this Order. A discussion was had on whether to notify senior judges of the orientation dates, as many of them would be asked to cover for the new judge during training.

b. Winter conference: December 10. The registration information was provided. Gordon Zimmerman, Professor of Communication at the University of Nevada, Reno, will cover “Courtroom Communication: Judicial Strategies for Productivity and Fairness.” The conference is being held at the Indianapolis Marriott North.

5. Program Schedule for 2005.

The program schedule for 2005 was handed out. A list of possible topics for the April Spring Judicial College was distributed. Highlighted topics were: criminal sentencing decisions, judicial writing, cultural competency, interviewing children, medication, pro se issues. Committee members brainstormed on additional ideas including: dealing with probation, interstate compact, science-oriented sessions, how to do local rules, forensic diversion.

6. Judicial Education Courses and Credit.

a. CLE rule change for distance education: CLE now allows six hours of distance education to count towards the 36-hour requirement.

b. Judicial College and Masters credit: Judge Penrod asked if judges really understand the differences between the Judicial College, the Masters Program, and the Graduate Program, and if we need to rethink what courses should qualify for credit. Earl remarked that it is difficult to design courses to meet the criteria for the special masters sessions. Some topics were suggested, including law and literature, law and history, bioethics, comparative law.

7. No additional items were raised for discussion.

8. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 28, 2005, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Jordan
Program Attorney